इसके अलावा, 31 मार्च, 1992 को स्थिति के अनुसार जी०सी०ए० और रूबल रक्षा ऋण क्रमशः 21760 लाख अमेरिकी डालर और 88990 लाख रूबल था । इसके बाद की अवधि की सूचना उपलब्ध नहीं है क्योंकि इस अवधि के लिये लेखों को अभी अंतिम रूप नहीं दिया गया है ।

(ख) वर्ष 1992–93 के दौरान बकाया ऋण पर देय ब्याज की कुल राशि 7356 करोड़ रुपये होने का अनुमान है ।

(ग) जी, नहीं ।

(घ) प्रश्न ही नहीं उठता ।

Structure of the proposed NRBI

881. SHRI MOHAMED AFZAL alias MEEM AFZAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether is it a fact that RBI/Government propose to establish the National Rural Bank of India shortly in the national interest;

(b) what is the number of Regional Rural Banks which are under operation currently and what is the number of employees on their pay rolls; and

(c) whether 'National Rural Bank of India' would be more or less on the lines of State Bank of India's administering structure, entrusting the powers of control and supervision to 'NABARD"?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED): (a) and (c) Government have initiated a process of consultation for restructuring of the Regional Rural Banks (RRBs). A number of models have been worked out and effectiveness of each is being examined from all angles. This also includes the proposal for establishment of a National Rural Bank of India (NRBI) with a view to improve the rural banking system and increase the flow of credit to rural sector. However, no final decision has so far been taken in this regard.

(b) There are 196 RRBs with 14539 branches operating in the country and employing a total staff of 70294 as at the end of March, 1992.

Relaxation granted on imported goods

882. SHRI VIREN J. SHAH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what are the details of facilities allowed by Government recently to the visiting tourists, NRIs and others;

(b) on what terms and conditions NRIs and others have been allowed to bring imported goods with them on their visit to India;

(c) whether Government have decided to delegate the power of extension of the period upto six months to the visiting NRIs and other by the Assistant Collectors of the Airports themselves; and

(d) if so, what are the detail in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASEKHAR MURTHY): (a) and (b) The following facilities have been allowed by the Government recently to visiting tourists, NRIs and others;

The effective rate of customs duty on any item imported by incoming passengers as baggage has been reduced to 15 per cent ad valorem from the previous rate 255 per cent ad valorem. However, television sets would be leviable to addition duties equal to the excise duty at the appropriate rate.

A person who was engaged in his profession abroad for over six months will now be entitled to import, free of duty, such portable equipments, instruments,

apparatus and appliances, as are ordinarily required in his profession upto a value limit of Rs. 15,000/-. However, exemption shall apply only to items used by carpenters, plumbers, welders, masons and the like and items of common use shall not be allowed under this provision.

Persons transferring their residence to India on returning to India on termination of their work after staying abroad for over a year shall be allowed to import Fax Machine at the concessional rate of customs duty on 25 percent ad valorem.

In terms of rule 4A of the Baggage Rules, 1978 persons returning to India on termination of their work after staying abroad for over a year can import their personal effects and household articles upto an aggregate value of Rs. 3,000/- free of duty (excluding 14 items of consumer durables which attract duty of 25 per cent ad valorem) subject to certain conditions, provided their stay abroad is not less than 365 days and and they have not availed short visit to India during the aforesaid period in excess of 45 days. Such persons shall now be eligible for this concession if they stayed abroad for atleast 365 days in the two years immediately preceding the date of their arrival in India irrespective of the visits to India during the aforesaid period of two yers.

A person transferring his residence to India is eligible to import not more than one unit each of 14 consumer durables at a concessional rate of 25 percent ad valorem subject to the condition that only one member of family would be eligible for this concession. The Government have now relaxed this condition to the extent that the concession can be availed by more than one member of the family so long as not more than one unit of each of the 14 consumer durables is imported per family.

The Government have also removed the earlier restrictions that goods imported at baggage would not be sold or displayed in a shop or gifted or otherwise parted with.

(c) and (d) In terms of the Tourist Baggage Rules, 1978, a tourist is entitled to import certain articles (such as cameras, C. D. Players, music system etc.) which are required by him during his stay in India on the condition that the same would be re-exported within six months. This period of six months can be extended by the Collector or the Central Board of Excise and Customs depending upon the period for which extension is required. It has some time been noticed that tourists (NRIs and others) are put to difficulties when they are leaving India after a stay of more than six months and when they have not applied for extension to the Collector or the Board. The Government have now delegated the power to grant extension of the period upto six months to the Assistant Collector at the airport itself so that the visiting tourists are not put to any hardship.

LIC scheme for female child

883. SHRI RAMENDRA KUMAR YADAV 'RAVI': Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Life Insurance Corporation of India has launched two insurance schemes for the female child, recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the nature of risk covered thereunder and the benefits accruing therefrom?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED): (a) LIC has launched only one new insurance plan for female children with effect from 1-11-1992.

(b) The name of the plan is 'Jeevan Sukanya' and it is issued on the lives of female children aged between one year (completed) and 12 years (completed). The risk on the female life assured will commence either two years after the date of commencement of the policy or from thepolicy anniversary